

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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O R 081612Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2324

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

US MISSION USUN 5053

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, UR, US

SUBJECT: APRIL 8 PROTEST NOTE ON HARASSMENT IN MOSCOW

REF: MOSCOW 5353

1. AS INDICATED REFTTEL, ADCM HANDED DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA'S USA DIVISION FEDOSEYEV A NOTE ON LATEST EXAMPLES OF HARASSMENT AFTERNOON OF APRIL 8. HE ADDED THAT, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE FEARED PUBLICITY IN U.S. REGARDING THESE INCIDENTS MIGHT ENCOURAGE THE UNSTABLE INDIVIDUALS IN NEW YORK WHOSE STATED PURPOSE IN HARASSING SOVIET OFFICIALS WAS TO DISRUPT IMPROVEMENT OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS. SUCCESSES IN THIS REGARD MIGHT WELL SPUR THEM ON TO FURTHER EFFORTS. RETALIATION IN MOSCOW, WHICH IN ANY EVENT DOES NOTHING TO HELP RESOLVE THE DEPLORABLE SITUATION IN NEW YORK, MIGHT THUS INDEED PROVE SERIOUSLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

2. FEDOSEYEV RESPONDED THAT THE SITUATION WAS NOT PLEASANT, BUT AT LEAST THERE WERE NOT EXPLOSIONS AND NO SHOOTINGS IN MOSCOW. HOWEVER, WHILE SOVIET OFFICIALS

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CONTINUED TO BE HARASSED IN THE U.S., IT "WAS DIFFICULT

TO TAKE FULL MEASURES TO PROTECT AMERICANS IN MOSCOW." ADCM NOTED THAT THE TWO SITUATIONS COULD NOT BE EQUATED AND AGAIN STRESSED THAT CONTINUED RETALIATION HERE COULD ONLY FURTHER COMPLICATE RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM IN NEW YORK, A PROBLEM WHICH WE ALL DEPLORED.

3. TEXT OF THE APRIL 8 NOTE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT.

WITH REFERENCE TO ITS NOTE NO. 409 OF APRIL 6, THE EMBASSY WISHES TO CALL THE MINISTRY'S ATTENTION TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE HARASSMENT CAMPAIGN DIRECTED AGAINST THE EMBASSY AND ITS PERSONNEL ON APRIL 7 AND 8.

AT 2:25 P.M. APRIL 7 ACTING CHIEF OF THE CONSULAR SECTION ALYNN NATHANSON WAS DETAINED AND HARASSED FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES BY FOUR RUSSIAN-SPEAKING MALES IN A SMALL PARK ABOUT 300 YARDS NORTH OF THE EMBASSY ON ULITSA CHAIKOVSKO.

ON APRIL 7 CLOSE, HARASSING VEHICULAR SURVEILLANCE WAS CONTINUED AGAINST FIRST SECRETARY JAMES WILKINSON AND SECOND SECRETARY ROBERT MILLER, ENDANGERING THEIR SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF THEIR PASSENGERS. AMONG THE VEHICLES ENGAGED IN THIS ACTIVITY WERE VOLGA 68-57 MKA, VOLGA 38-42 MMZH, AND VOLGA 49-73 MMZH.

DURING THE NIGHT OF APRIL 7-8 IDENTICAL PHYSICAL DAMAGE WAS INFLICTED UPON THE PERSONAL AUTOMOBILES OF THREE EMBASSY EMPLOYEES RESIDING AT LENISKIY PROSPEKT 83.

IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, THE EMBASSY MUST ONCE AGAIN INSIST THAT THIS CAMPAIGN OF HARASSMENT BE HALTED AT ONCE, THAT THE GUILTY PARTIES BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE, AND THAT THE MINISTRY PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH AN IMMEDIATE REPORT ON MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SOVIET SIDE TO CEASE HARASSMENT OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN THE SOVIET UNION. END TEXT.

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